

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 1
Classes end

Graduate School Information Session, Gibbs Hall-Room 123, 4:30-6:30 p.m., **F**

MAY 2
Reading Day

MAY 4-8
Final Exam Week

MAY 8
Waste Management Certificate Ceremony



MAY 9
Commencement, Speaker: CBS News Correspondent Byron Pitts, Greensboro Coliseum, 8:30 a.m.

Annual Alumni Association Picnic, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., **R, \$**

Residence halls close for non-graduating students, noon

Residence halls close for graduating students, 5 p.m.

MAY 11
Final grades are due

MAY 18
First and dual summer sessions begin

The N.C. A&T Ticket Sales Office is located in Brown Hall, corner of Laurel and Bluford streets. For information, call (336) 334-7749.



THE AGGIE REPORT

A Biweekly Newsletter for Faculty and Staff of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University VOL 10 • NO 17 • May 1, 2009

Pitts to Deliver Commencement Address

North Carolina A&T's spring commencement exercises will be held at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 9, in the Greensboro Coliseum. The University expects to confer more than 1,000 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees.

CBS News national correspondent Byron Pitts will give the commencement address. As national correspondent, Pitts has covered many of the nation's biggest stories of the past few years including the war with Iraq, Ground Zero immediately following the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, the war in Afghanistan, the military buildup in Kuwait, the Florida fires, the Elian Gonzalez story, the Florida Presidential recount, the

mudslides in Central America and the refugee crisis in Kosovo.

Raised by a single mother in a working class neighborhood in Baltimore, Pitts was illiterate until age 12 and had a constant stutter. Capitalizing on his desire to play football, his mother mandated he receive Bs or above in school in order to play. With that focus, Pitts learned to read and went on to attend Ohio Wesleyan University, where he graduated in 1982 with a B.A. degree in journalism and speech communication.



Pitts

Pitts has received several awards, including a national Emmy Award for his coverage of the Chicago train wreck of 1999, a second national Emmy Award for individual reporting of 9/11, and a National Association of Black Journalists Award. He also has received four Associated Press Awards and six regional Emmy Awards. In 2006, the Institute for Advanced Journalism Studies at North Carolina A&T State University presented Pitts with its Vernon Jarrett Award for Journalistic Excellence.

Campus, Alumni and Local Community Give Attributes for Next Chancellor

In March and early April, the Chancellor Search Committee hosted a series of forums to collect data from the campus, alumni and local communities. Each segment provided characteristics it wants the next chancellor of North Carolina A&T State University to possess and the committee to consider during the selection process.

Here is a summary of the responses. For a complete listing, visit the Chancellor Search website: <http://www.ncat.edu/chansrch>.



Leadership and Strategic Vision

- Strong strategic vision
- Drive of excellence
- Openness to the use of entrepreneurial and innovative methods to implement the vision
- Proven leader

Fund-raising Ability

- Proven fundraiser

Academic Leadership

- Proponent of innovative initiatives that adhere to high academic standards for students, faculty and staff

Learner-centered

- Promotes strong, supportive environment for academic disciplines, retention of students, scholarship and graduating students with degrees that are valued

Community Involvement

- Able to form strong, positive relationships between N.C. A&T and the Greensboro community
- Encourages community outreach
- Actively participates in community endeavors and is an asset to the community
- Understands and values the role of the University in the local community

Alumni Relations

- Ability to engage alumni
- Values the contributions that alumni provide to the University and alumni recruitment
- Encourages alumni to donate financially

Student-focused

- Commitment to students
- Priority given to students' needs, consideration of student opinions and improving University services
- Sets high expectations for student achievement
- Provides an environment that leads to a quality education
- Supports and awards student success

Faculty Relations

- Advocate for shared governance, tenure and academic freedom
- Pride and support for faculty
- Appreciates the value of collaboration and communication on all levels
- Encourages professional development and faculty retention
- Familiarity with faculty and promotion of an academic environment that values individual empowerment
- Accountability on all levels

Staff Relations

- Understands and values the role of staff in operational excellence
- Supports professional development and training
- Pride and support for staff
- Promotes communication on all levels
- Encourages professional development
- Accountability on all levels

Respect for History/Heritage/Legacy

Commitment to Diversity

Global Perspective

Management Style and Interpersonal Skills

- Experience and skill in organizational management and ability to address improvement of University organizational infrastructure
- Outgoing personality and positive attitude
- Effective communication on all levels
- Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to work effectively with students, staff, faculty, community, alumni, industry, nationally and globally
- Ability to promote N.C. A&T college and school programs and achievements nationally
- Ability to evaluate and implement processes to improve quality and service to constituencies

Personal Characteristics

- A professional with strong moral character, honesty, ethics and integrity
- Innovative
- Engaging and personable leader who is outgoing, approachable, trustworthy and sincere
- Passionate and driven
- Consensus builder who can encourage university-wide support
- Effective communicator
- Background in academia and/or business with experience in implementing university improvements and organizational management
- Strong leader able to uphold accountability, professionalism, and a commitment to excellence at N.C. A&T



Yongchul Chung, assistant professor in the department of human performance and leisure studies in the School of Education, has been invited to present a paper, "Positive Sport Psychology toward Human Flourishing," at the Korean Society of Sport Psychology conference in Chung-Ju, Korea. Additionally, Chung has co-authored a manuscript titled "Coaching life skills through football: Philosophical beliefs of outstanding high school football coaches." This article appears in the January 2009 edition of the *International Journal of Coaching Science*.



Stephanie L. Lusk, an assistant professor in the department of human development and services, School of Education, has written an article that has been accepted for publication. "Enhancing Career Exploration, Decision Making and Problem Solving of Adolescent Girls with Disabilities" will appear in the *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*. In addition, a book chapter she authored, "Substance Use Disorders and Disability: An Examination of Co-occurring Disorders in Nigeria," will be published by the National Council on Rehabilitation Education as part of a three volume set titled *Disabilities: Insights from across Fields and around the World*. Funding for this research project was provided by the Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange (CIRRIE).



Tiece M. Ruffin, an assistant professor in the department of curriculum and instruction, School of Education, has authored a peer-reviewed article. The article looks at reading strategies for improving the reading comprehension skills of secondary level English language learners with learning disabilities. Adaptations are recommended so that the strategies are more appropriate for this unique and underserved population. "Reading Strategies: Adaptations to Meet the Needs of Secondary English-Language learners with Learning Disabilities" appears in *The Reading Matrix: An International Journal* (Vol. 9, No. 1, April 2009).



Sarla Sharma, professor of psychology, chaired a session on "Treatment and Mental Health" at the annual conference of the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) that was held Feb. 18-21 in New Orleans. Sharma also participated on the conference program committee and attended a workshop on clinical supervision.



Stanley F. Battle, Ph.D.
11th Chancellor
North Carolina A&T State University



N.C. A&T alumnus Dmitri Stockton (center), president and CEO of GE Capital Global Banking, has a lively discussion with accounting majors James Hardy and Denecia Scott. Stockton before the School of Business and Economics' Closing Bell Series held April 24. Stockton was the keynote speaker.

AGGIE BITS

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is urging everyone to take basic, practical steps to minimize possible transmission of the swine influenza virus by doing the following: cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash after use; wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing (alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective); avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth (germs spread that way); and try to avoid close contact with sick people (and if you get sick, the CDC recommends staying home and limiting contact with others to avoid spreading the infection).

Consult your healthcare provider with any questions regarding influenza, and remember, "Health Care Begins With You." Sebastian Health Center will keep you abreast of ongoing investigations conducted by the CDC and the WHO (World Health Organization).

Parking Services has launched a new e-business website, <https://ncat.t2hosted.com>, to provide online options that include purchasing permits online, paying citations, accessing account history by license plate or registered vehicle information, and appealing citations. The login process is simple: click on "Manage My Parking Account," log on with your N.C. A&T username and password, and begin reviewing your account. For more information, call Parking Services at (336) 285-2027.

The School of Graduate Studies will host an information session Friday, May 1, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in Gibbs Hall, room 123. The session is for anyone interested in pursuing a master's or doctoral degree. For details, contact George McCormick, coordinator of graduate recruitment, at gradsch@ncat.edu or (336) 285-2366.

The faculty and staff tuition and fee waiver can only be used for summer session classes if the employee did not take a class in the fall and spring. Each employee is limited to three tuition waivers/classes per academic year (fall semester through second summer session). For forms and more details, contact April Cobb at (336) 334-7977 or acobb@ncat.edu. For details about the summer sessions, call the Office of Summer Sessions and Outreach, (336) 334-7607.

Recruitment activity at North Carolina A&T State University has been suspended through June 30, for state-funded positions that do not provide direct classroom instruction or are not critical to law enforcement, public safety and security. Continue to monitor vacancy announcements at <https://jobs.ncat.edu> and apply for other positions, and contact the Division of Human Resources at (336) 334-7862 if additional information is needed.

Correction: Doretha B. Foushee, associate professor Teacher of the Year for the College of Arts and Sciences and N.C. A&T's nominee for the UNC Board of Governors Teaching Excellence Award, was misidentified as Dorothy B. Foushee in a photograph in the April 3, 2009 issue of *The Aggie Report*.

DoD CSE-HPC Faculty Training Workshop to be Held

On June 22-26, North Carolina A&T State University will host the third annual Department of Defense (DoD) Computational Science and Engineering and High Performance Computing (CSC-HPC) training workshop for faculty from under-represented minority serving institutions.

Selected faculty will participate in seminars, lectures, presentations and hands-on tutorials in CSE, HPC, software applications, visualization and data mining, to name a few. Applications and opportunities in areas of

relevance to DoD also will be covered through guest lectures by experts in the field.

The workshop is limited to 15 participants who have been selected on a competitive basis. (The extended deadline to apply was April 10.) The program pays for the attendees' travel and living expenses.

For other information about this and future workshops, contact Ram Mohan at (336) 334-7437 x2290 or rvmohan@ncat.edu.

